



# The *Hoodoo*

[hōō'dōō] n. 1. A pinnacle or odd-shaped rock left standing by the forces of erosion. 2. v. To cast a spell or cause bad luck. 3. n. Voodoo.

The official planner of  
Bryce Canyon National Park

Summer 2004



Photo courtesy of Ron Warner

## All Aboard Our Free Shuttle

The Bryce Canyon Shuttle is voluntary. However, we encourage you to use it during your stay. Not only is it **free**, easy and convenient, but you'll be doing your part to reduce pollution, conserve fuel, protect park resources, and minimize traffic -- which is especially important this year because of our road construction. **See pages 6-7 for route maps and shuttle schedules.**

### When does the shuttle operate?

The Bryce Canyon Shuttle operates **May 15 - September 30, 2004** from **8 a.m. to 8 p.m.** daily. Check at the visitor center or tune to Radio 1610 AM for more detailed information on shuttle schedules.

### Why are there two different bus lines?

The **Red Line** serves the northern end of the park in the vicinity of Bryce Amphitheater. See shuttle maps on pages 6-7.

The **Green Line** serves the southern end of the park. **Reservations are required to ride the Green Line shuttle.** Inquire at the Shuttle Parking and Boarding Area (located at the junction of Utah-12 and 63), or call (435) 834-5290.

Please note that the **Green Line Shuttle is offered this year only** to minimize traffic congestion associated with road construction.

### Is there a charge to ride the shuttle?

Riding the shuttle is free, but boarding the shuttle from outside the park requires payment of the park entrance fee.



The Bryce Canyon shuttle is a free, easy and convenient way to see the park.

### How often do the shuttle buses run?

**Red Line** buses run approximately every 8-10 minutes; **Green Line** buses depart six times per day.

### Where can I board the shuttle buses?

Please see pages 6-7 for **Red Line** and **Green Line** schedules and route maps.

### Where should I park my private vehicle?

Ample parking is available at the Shuttle Parking and Boarding Area, Ruby's Inn, and the North Campground Trailer Drop-off. Parking is limited elsewhere.

## What's Inside

Accessibility.....	3
Backcountry Camping.....	5
Geology.....	9
Hiking Information.....	6
Junior Ranger Program.....	4
Maps of Park.....	6-7
Natural History Association.....	11
Nearby Attractions.....	5
Planning for the Future.....	2
Photo Tips.....	10
Protecting Park Values.....	8
Ranger Programs.....	4
Safety Information.....	3
Services and Facilities.....	3
Shuttle Information.....	7
Southern Utah Sites.....	12
Weather.....	5
Wildlife .....	10

## Visitor Center Hours

**April 4 - May 8, 2004**  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**May 9 - October 9, 2004**  
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**October 10 - 31, 2004**  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Nov 1, 2004 - April, 2005**  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Emergencies

Call 911 or 435-676-2411  
24 hours a day, or contact a  
Park Ranger.

## Making the Most of Your Time

### Less than 3 hours

**Stop at the visitor center** for information, exhibits and a 22-minute award-winning orientation film, shown daily, 8:30 a.m. to closing, on the hour and half hour. Publications, maps and videos are available from our bookstore.

**Ride the Red Line** shuttle or drive your own vehicle to Sunrise, Sunset, Inspiration and Bryce points, which feature our most famous views.

**Picnic** at one of the designated picnic areas, or dine at Bryce Canyon Lodge.

**Stroll along the canyon rim.** The ½-mile section of Rim Trail between Sunset and Sunrise points is paved and fairly level, and offers stunning views of Bryce Amphitheater.

### More than 3 hours

In addition to the above:

**Travel to Rainbow Point** (18 miles, one-way) on the **Green Line** shuttle or in your own vehicle. See the spectacular cliffs and long-distance views across Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Reservations are required to ride the **Green Line** shuttle. Inquire at the Shuttle Parking and Boarding Area.

**Attend a free Ranger Program** to learn more about the geology, biology and history of this region. Program schedules are posted at the visitor center, campgrounds, General Store and Bryce Canyon Lodge.

**Take a horse ride** into Bryce Canyon. Wranglers lead two-hour and half-day rides daily. Inquire at Bryce Canyon Lodge.

**Hike a trail below the rim.** Check the trail guide on page 6 for descriptions of day hikes that take you into the heart of the hoodoos. Wear hiking boots; carry and drink plenty of water.





National Park Service  
U.S. Department  
of the Interior

### Bryce Canyon National Park

**Superintendent**  
Craig C. Axtell

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 170001  
Bryce Canyon, UT 84717-0001

**Web Site**  
[www.nps.gov/brca](http://www.nps.gov/brca)

**Park Headquarters**  
435-834-5322  
Fax 435-834-4102

**E-Mail**  
[brca\\_reception\\_area@nps.gov](mailto:brca_reception_area@nps.gov)

**For Employment**  
with the National Park Service or  
other federal agencies, log on to  
[www.usaobs.opm.gov](http://www.usaobs.opm.gov).  
Seasonal jobs are listed on  
[www.sep.nps.gov](http://www.sep.nps.gov).

## Park Profile

### Established:

1923 as Bryce Canyon National  
Monument; 1924 as Utah  
National Park; 1928 as Bryce  
Canyon National Park

### Elevation:

Lowest point: 6,620 feet  
(2018 m)  
Highest point: 9,115 feet  
(2778 m)

### Precipitation:

Annual Average: 18 inches  
(45.7 cm)

### Name:

Ebenezer Bryce lived in the  
area from 1875-1880 and aided  
in the settlement of  
southwestern Utah and northern  
Arizona.

### Annual Visitation:

1929: 22,000 visits  
2003: 1 million visits

## Bryce Canyon Gets a New Road

Over the next several months, visitors to Bryce Canyon National Park will discover that several miles of park road will be receiving a much-needed overhaul. Modifications are designed to increase safety, protect park resources and improve the visitor experience. Road work will continue through the fall of this year.

Road improvements will include widening lanes and shoulders, realigning certain intersections, and redesigning and expanding some parking areas.

Originally constructed in 1923, Bryce Canyon's road system no longer meets current specifications and is unable to accommodate today's volume of traffic and vehicle size.

**The park will remain open during construction; however, there may be delays of up to 20 minutes on some sections of roadway.**

**Please drive and park only on established roadways and paved pull-outs.** This protects revegetated roadsides, and prevents you from getting mired in mud on soft road shoulders.



Road-grading in Bryce Canyon, circa 1923

**We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience during this improvement project.**

## Burning Our Way to a Better Future

Perhaps you've noticed scorched trees and other signs of forest fires. Some fires were started by lightning, others were intentionally set by park managers using a modern ecological practice called "**prescribed burning**."



Drip-torch being used to ignite a prescribed burn.

Since the beginning of time, plants and animals have lived with fire. Only in the last century, have we humans tried to change the laws of nature by preventing forest fires. Nature has not adjusted well to our anti-fire notions. Meadows have been taken over by forests. Forests have become too dense, forcing more trees to share the same limited amount of water and soil nutrients. This unnatural competition between trees has diminished individual tree health, leaving entire forests highly susceptible to disease and invasion by parasitic insects. Worse yet, such forests have lost their ability to sustain a high level of biodiversity.

Maintaining biodiversity means offering the best habitats for the largest number of native species. While fire can be harmful to some species, fire is beneficial to others. Fire promotes a diversity in tree species and stimulates the growth of grasses, shrubs, forbs (wildflowers) and berry-producing bushes. Birds, mammals and other wildlife then benefit from increased food and shelter.

Despite evidence that fire is a necessary element in many forest ecosystems, over most of the past century, people have feared and suppressed it. In the western United States, the accumulation of dead forest fuels due to these

suppression efforts now presents extreme hazards to the health of the trees, soil, wildlife and humans living in these areas, not to mention the burden faced by taxpayers who fund the fighting of catastrophic wildfires.

Prescribed fire is the responsible application of fire. These carefully planned and diligently managed fires have proven to mitigate the problems created by decades of aggressive fire suppression. Taking this scientific approach, we can use fire as a tool to return forests to their historic, natural and more productive condition.

As part of our prescribed fire practices, we take extra precaution with sections of our forest that border our irreplaceable historic buildings. Perhaps you've noticed the teepee-shaped stacks of wood in the vicinity of the Bryce Canyon Lodge. These are the result of "mechanical thinning" where fire crews use chainsaws to first reduce tree density. Later in the winter, these piles are burned individually when specific weather conditions are met that allow for acceptable smoke dispersal and little chance of fire spread.

Now, upon noticing our blackened trees, we encourage you to also look for deer, elk, prairie dogs, and countless species of birds that thrive here because of our safe and successful application of fire.

Please contact a park ranger for more information about prescribed fire and its role in maintaining long-term forest health.



Burn piles near Bryce Canyon Lodge.



## Visitor Center:



Open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (summer months). Park information, museum, publications, an award-winning film, backcountry permits, first aid, and lost-and-found services are available here.

## Camping:



**North Campground:** 107 sites open all year. Campsites may be reserved May 15-Sept 30 by calling (877) 444-6777 or visiting [www.ReserveUSA.com](http://www.ReserveUSA.com). Reservations are accepted up to 240 days in advance. Campsites are first-come, first-served October 1-May 14.

**Sunset Campground:** Open late spring to early fall. 101 campsites available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Camping fee** is \$10 a night per campsite (half price for Golden Age/Access Passport holders). There is an additional booking fee of \$9 per reservation for North Campground.

**Group Campsite:** One site available by reservation only. Group size is limited to 7-30 people and 8 vehicles. Cost is \$3 person, with a minimum of \$30 per night. Call (877) 444-6777 or visit [www.ReserveUSA.com](http://www.ReserveUSA.com) to make reservations.

No hookups are provided in the park, but a fee-for-use sanitary dump station is available seasonally near North Campground.

*Please note: For camping reservations at Zion and Grand Canyon National Parks, call (800) 365-2267 or visit <http://reservations.nps.gov>.*

## Entrance fees:



**Private vehicle:** \$20 per vehicle, good for 7 days in Bryce Canyon National Park.  
**Individual:** \$10 per person (pedestrian, bicycle, motorcycle, and organized group), good for 7 days in Bryce Canyon National Park.

**National Parks Pass:** \$50, good for one year from date of purchase in all areas of the National Park System.

**Bryce Canyon Annual Pass:** \$30, good for one year from date of purchase at Bryce Canyon National Park.

**Commercial Tours:** Ask for rates.

**Golden Age Passport:** \$10 lifetime pass for U.S. residents 62 or older.

**Golden Eagle Passport:** \$65, good for one year from date of purchase in all federal fee areas.

**Golden Access Passport:** Free lifetime pass for U.S. residents who are permanently disabled.

## Lodging:



Bryce Canyon Lodge has 114 rooms including suites, motel rooms and cabins. For lodging reservations, write to: Xanterra Parks and Resorts, Inc., 4001 East Iliiff Ave., Suite 600, Aurora, CO 80014, or call (888) 297-2757; or visit their website at [www.xanterra.com](http://www.xanterra.com). The lodge has a restaurant, gift shop and post office.

## Food/Supplies:



Bryce Canyon Lodge restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Reservations are required for dinner; call (435) 834-5361. The General Store, located near Sunrise Point parking area, has groceries, quick meals, film and camper supplies.

## Showers/Laundry:



Coin-operated shower and laundry facilities are available at the General Store, located near Sunrise Point parking area.

## Accessibility:



Shuttle buses, restrooms, the visitor center, Bryce Canyon Lodge and General Store are fully accessible. Two campsites in Sunset Campground are reserved for people with mobility impairments. The ½-mile section of Rim Trail between Sunset and Sunrise points is paved and fairly level. Many ranger-led programs are accessible; see page X for details.

Ask for an **Access Guide** at the visitor center. Temporary handicapped parking permits are available at the visitor center, as well.

## Church Services:



Religious services are held in the park on summer Sundays, and in neighboring communities year-round. Check at the visitor center or Bryce Canyon Lodge for schedules.

## Horseback Rides:



Wranglers lead 2-hour and half-day horse and mule rides April through October. For same-day reservations, inquire at Bryce Canyon Lodge or call (435) 834-5500. For advance reservations, contact: Canyon Trail Rides, P.O. Box 128, Tropic, UT 84776; (435) 679-8665. For more information, visit their website at [www.canyonrides.com](http://www.canyonrides.com).

## Phones:



Public phones are available at the visitor center, Bryce Canyon Lodge, the General Store and Sunset Campground. Emergency information is posted at the phones.

## Mail:



A post office is open at Ruby's Inn (Bryce, UT 84764) all year, and at the Bryce Canyon Lodge (Bryce Canyon, UT 84717) April through October. The park is unable to receive personal mail addressed to visitors.

## Pets



Pets are not recommended in the park. If you must bring your pet with you, be aware that they must be on a leash and under control at all times, they are not permitted on park trails, and there are no kennel services within 80 miles of the park.

## Bicycles



Bicycles are restricted to paved roadways. Information on mountain biking opportunities outside of the park may be obtained by writing or calling the Garfield County Travel Council, P.O. Box 200, Panguitch, Utah 84759, (800) 444-6689; [www.brycecanyoncountry.com](http://www.brycecanyoncountry.com).

## Picnic Areas:



Picnic areas are available at Sunset Point, the General Store, Rainbow Point and the south end of North Campground. Water faucets are available at all of the above locations **except** Rainbow Point. Fire grates are available only at the North Campground Picnic Area.

## Restrooms:



Restrooms are available at the Visitor Center, Sunset Point, Farview Point, the General Store, North and Sunset Campgrounds.

## Be Safe, Not Sorry...



**Ankle injuries are our number one safety problem!** Wear hiking boots with good ankle support and traction.

Observe speed limits. Drive only on established roadways. Watch for wildlife. Buckle up!



Observe speed limits. Drive only on established roadways. Watch for wildlife. Buckle up!

Be aware of the altitude. Park elevations reach 9115 feet (2778 meters). Know and respect your own physical limitations. High altitude sun burns and dehydrates quickly.



Carry and drink plenty of water. Wear a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses that block ultraviolet light.



Stay on designated trails and away from cliff edges. Loose and crumbly rocks can make footing treacherous. Falls can be deadly. Don't throw rocks into the canyon; you may injure hikers on trails below you.



During lightning storms, stay away from the rim and do not take shelter under trees.



Please be responsible. **DON'T feed the wildlife!** Human food is harmful to wild animals.

Animals will bite and can transmit diseases such as rabies and bubonic plague. Watch wildlife from a distance.

## Ebenezer and Mary Bryce



Ebenezer Bryce and his family came to the Paria Valley in 1875. He was sent by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints because his skill as a carpenter would be useful in settling the area.

Bryce built a road to the plateau top to retrieve firewood and timber. He also built an irrigation canal to raise crops and animals.

Local people called the canyon with strange rock formations near Ebenezer's home "Bryce's Canyon."

The Bryces moved to Arizona in 1880. To this day people continue to call this area Bryce Canyon.

*We invite you to join rangers to learn more about Bryce Canyon National Park. Rangers discuss geology, plants, animals and human history on the various walks and talks offered each day. All programs are free!*

### RIM WALK -

Stroll along the canyon rim to learn of the park's diversity. 1 mile, 1½ hours.

### CANYON HIKE -

Hike into the hoodoos along the Navajo Loop or Queen's Garden Trail. 1½ miles, 2 hours.

### GEOLOGY TALK -

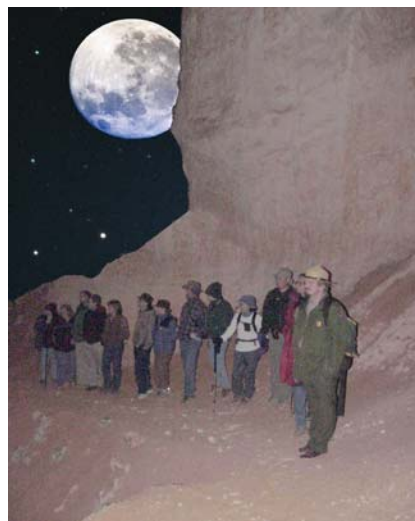
Rangers tell the geologic story of Bryce Canyon. 30 minutes.

### ASTRONOMY PROGRAMS -

Join NASA Solar System Ambassador, Patrick Wiggins, and Park Ranger, Kevin Poe, to view Bryce Canyon's night skies through telescopes. 2 hours. (Offered three times per month. Ask at the visitor center or check our website, [www.nps.gov/brca](http://www.nps.gov/brca), for night sky program schedules.)

### MOONLIGHT HIKE -

Hike among moonlit hoodoos. Register early at the visitor center **in person** on the day of the hike. 1½ miles, 2 hours. (Offered two nights each month during the full moon. Ask at the visitor center or check our website, [www.nps.gov/brca](http://www.nps.gov/brca), for moonlight hike schedules.)



### JUST FOR KIDS -

Join a ranger for games and activities on ecology and Bryce Canyon. 1 hour. Register at the visitor center up to one day in advance. Space is limited.

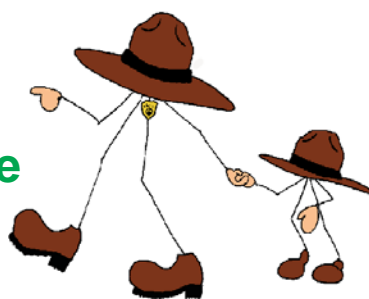
### CAMPFIRE/AUDITORIUM PROGRAM -

Bryce Canyon's diversity comes to life during the slide program or evening talk at the campfire circles or Bryce Canyon Lodge auditorium. 1 hour.

*For program dates, times, locations and topics, check the Ranger Program Schedules posted at the visitor center, General Store, Bryce Canyon Lodge, and campground bulletin boards.*

## Hey Kids!

### Would you like to become a Junior Ranger?



Bryce Canyon's Junior Rangers have a special chance to learn about the park's natural and cultural history.

Kids, stop at the visitor center and pick up a Junior Ranger booklet. Complete the activities inside and return it to a ranger at the visitor center.

When you've finished, you'll receive an official certificate and Bryce Canyon Junior Ranger badge. Junior Ranger patches are also available for purchase for those who complete the Junior Ranger program.



### For Kids Only!

Join in the fun and become a Bryce Canyon Junior Ranger



## The Geodetectives Program

### Kids ~ Parents ~ Teachers

### Check out this exciting adventure series about earth science!

Learn about Earth Systems, Paleontology, Rocks and Minerals, Landforms, Plate Tectonics, and the Hydrological Cycle. Lesson plans can be downloaded from our web site. Fun experiments and learning mysteries are under construction and will be available soon.

All lesson plans follow the Utah State Core Curriculum and meet the National Science Education Standards.

Visit our geodetectives web page at: [www.nps.gov/brca/](http://www.nps.gov/brca/)





# NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

5



**Zion National Park**  
(78 miles southwest of Bryce via Utah 12, US 89 and Utah 9)

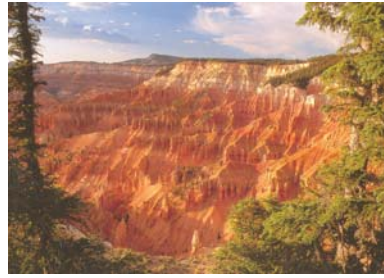
Zion is an ancient Hebrew word meaning a place of refuge or sanctuary. Within the park's 229 square miles is a dramatic landscape of sculptured canyons, soaring cliffs, rushing rivers, hanging gardens, and unique cultural resources. Zion features a visitor center, human history museum, ranger programs, hiking trails, two campgrounds, picnic areas, a Lodge and horseback rides. The 8-mile Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is accessible by shuttle bus only, April through October, and by private vehicle the rest of the year. For detailed shuttle information, tune your radio to 1610 AM, or call 435-772-3256.

[www.nps.gov/zion](http://www.nps.gov/zion)



**Capitol Reef National Park**  
(121 miles northeast of Bryce via Utah 12 and 24)

The Waterpocket Fold, a giant wrinkle in Earth's crust, features a spectacular jumble of colorful cliffs, massive domes, soaring spires, twisting canyons and graceful arches. Capitol Reef National Park was established to protect this grand and colorful geologic feature, as well as the unique cultural history found in the area. Capitol Reef features a visitor center, hiking trails, ranger programs, a picnic area, campground, and scenic drive. The historic Fruita orchards are open June to October for "self-serve picking" of apples, cherries, peaches and pears. For more information, call 435-425-3791, or visit [www.nps.gov/care](http://www.nps.gov/care)



**Cedar Breaks National Monument**  
(83 miles west of Bryce via Utah 12, US 89 and Utah 14)

Atop the Markagunt Plateau at an elevation of 10,350 feet (3155 m), Cedar Breaks features a spectacular amphitheater filled with walls, fins, spires and columns eroded out of colorful Claron limestones. Forests of spruce, fir and aspen are separated by alpine meadows ablaze with brilliant summer wildflowers. Cedar Breaks features a visitor center, ranger programs, hiking trails, picnic area, campground, and scenic drive with viewpoints overlooking the "breaks." Temperatures are usually cool. Utah 148 is closed late fall through spring because of heavy snow. For more information, call 435-586-0787 or visit [www.nps.gov/cebr](http://www.nps.gov/cebr)



**Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument**  
(South and east of Bryce via Utah 12 and US 89)

Administered by the Bureau of Land Management, this 1.9 million acre area features some of the most diverse and ruggedly beautiful landscapes in the country. The monument preserves a unique combination of archaeological, historical, paleontological, geological, and biological resources. Utah 12 and US 89 skirt the northern and southern fringes of the monument and offer numerous scenic pull-outs. All of the roads in the monument's interior are unpaved, and many require 4-wheel drive. Call for current information: 435-896-5499 (Escalante); 435-679-8981 (Cannonville); or 435-644-4600 (Kanab). [www.ut.blm.gov/monument](http://www.ut.blm.gov/monument)

## National Scenic Byway 12 "All American Road"



Surrounding Bryce Canyon National Park are major recreational and scenic areas which can be reached by driving National Scenic Byway 12.

The Federal Highway Administration recently designated the route an "All-American Road," with one-of-a-kind features so exceptional that it qualifies as a destination unto itself.

Only a few National Scenic Byways achieve all intrinsic qualities of All-American Roads, making National Scenic Byway 12 one of the most unique roads in the country. Ask for a Scenic Byway 12 brochure at the visitor center.

## WEATHER AT BRYCE CANYON

### Month

J F M A M J J A S O N D

### TEMPERATURE (°F)

Normal Daily Maximum	39	41	46	56	66	76	83	80	74	63	51	42
Normal Daily Minimum	9	13	17	25	31	38	47	45	37	29	19	11
Extreme High	62	66	76	82	89	96	97	94	91	85	75	67
Extreme Low	-30	-29	-13	-5	5	20	25	23	17	-2	-20	-23
Days Above 90° F	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	0
Days Below 32° F	31	28	31	27	20	6	0	1	9	22	29	31

### PRECIPITATION (inches)

Normal	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.6	1.4	2.2	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.6
Maximum	9.2	6.8	3.6	3.8	2.3	2.7	3.8	4.8	4.2	4.5	5.4	6.2
Maximum 24 hr. Precipitation	2.3	1.5	1.1	1.8	1.2	1.7	1.8	3.8	3.4	1.7	1.5	3.2
Maximum Snowfall	63	75	75	62	18	6	T	T	4	22	22	49
Days With Precipitation	7	7	8	6	5	3	5	6	4	4	5	6
Average # of Thunderstorms	0	0	0	1	5	6	14	19	7	2	0	0

### SUNSHINE/CLOUDINESS

# of Clear Days	9	7	9	10	12	17	16	16	18	17	11	10
# of Partly Cloudy Days	8	8	8	9	10	8	10	10	8	7	8	8
# of Cloudy Days	14	13	14	11	9	5	5	5	4	7	8	13
% Possible Sunshine	56	64	60	68	74	83	77	79	80	75	63	60



Would you like to experience a part of Bryce Canyon National Park that few visitors ever see? Less than 1% of all Bryce visitors explore the park's backcountry.

In contrast to the day-hiking trails which wind through intricately-carved hoodoos, Bryce Canyon's backcountry trails traverse forests and meadows and afford distant views of spectacularly-colored cliffs.

Backcountry camping is allowed on a limited basis and only at designated campsites. A \$5 backcountry permit is required. Permits are issued at the visitor center from 8:00 a.m. until two hours before sunset.

**CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE BACKCOUNTRY.** Water sources are unreliable and are not maintained or tested for bacterial contamination or heavy metals. We recommend that each person carry a minimum of one gallon of water from an approved drinking source for each day they are in the backcountry.

The 23-mile **Under-the-Rim Trail** can be accessed by four different connecting trails along the park road. The 9-mile **Riggs Spring Loop Trail** begins and ends at Yovimpa Point.



Ask at the visitor center for a free Backcountry Hiking and Camping Guide.

Stop at the visitor center and talk to a ranger before making any overnight trip into the backcountry. Maps and other information concerning trails, campsites, water availability and backcountry regulations are available at the visitor center.





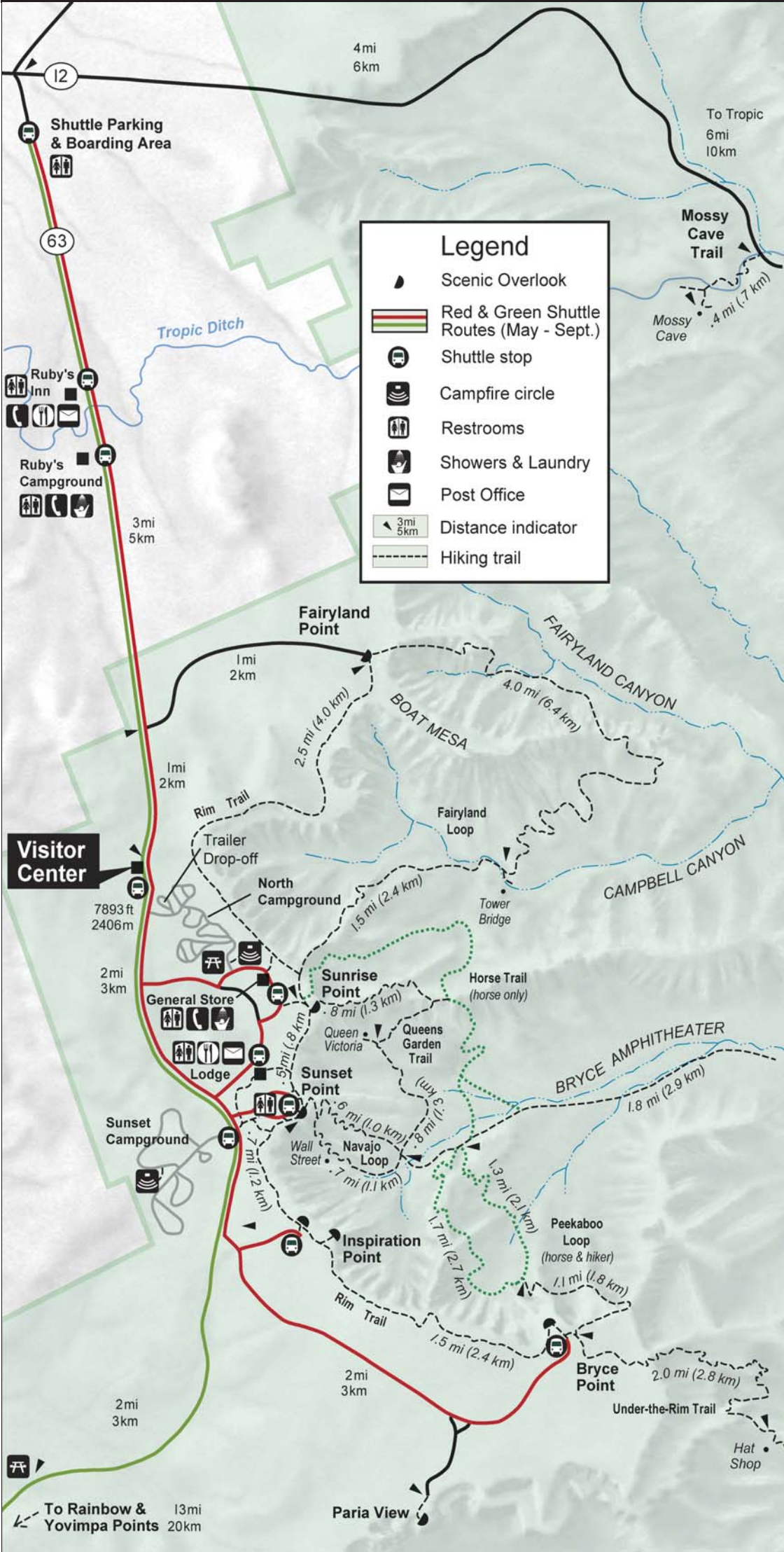
Trail Guide

TRAIL NAME / STARTING POINT	ROUND TRIP DISTANCE / TIME	ELEVATION	DESCRIPTION
Easy to Moderate Hikes			
<b>MOSSY CAVE</b> Highway 12, northwest of Tropic (not a loop)	.8 mi 1.3 km 1 hour	150 ft 45 m	Streamside walk up to a mossy grotto and a small waterfall.
<b>RIM TRAIL</b> Anywhere along rim (not a loop)	up to 11.0 mi up to 17.7 km 5-6 hours	550 ft 168 m	Outstanding views of hoodoos from above. Trail is paved and fairly level between Sunrise and Sunset Points.
<b>BRISTLECONE LOOP</b> Rainbow Point Trail narrative available at visitor center for \$1.	1.0 mi 1.6 km 1 hour	100 ft 31 m	Hike through spruce-fir forests to cliffs with bristlecone pines and exceptional views.
<b>QUEENS GARDEN</b> Sunrise Point (not a loop) Trail narrative available at visitor center for \$1.	1.8 mi 2.9 km 1-2 hours	320 ft 98 m	Considered the least difficult trail into the canyon. See Queen Victoria at the end of a short spur trail.
Moderate Hikes			
<b>NAVAJO LOOP</b> Sunset Point Trail narrative available at visitor center for \$1.	1.3 mi 2.2 km 1-2 hours	521 ft 159 m	Switchbacks descend into Wall Street, a "slot" canyon with huge Douglas-fir trees. View Thors Hammer on the trail's north side.
<b>NAVAJO/QUEENS COMBINATION</b> Sunset or Sunrise Point	2.9 mi 4.6 km 2-3 hours	521 ft 159 m	Combine the two trails described above. Hike the Rim Trail back to your starting point.
<b>TOWER BRIDGE</b> North of Sunrise Point (not a loop)	3.0 mi 4.8 km 2-3 hours	800 ft 244 m	See bristlecone pines and the Chinese Wall. A shady ¼-mile side trail leads to the bridge.
Strenuous Hikes			
<b>FAIRYLAND LOOP</b> Fairyland Point or north of Sunrise Point	8.0 miles 12.9 km 4-5 hours	900 ft 275 m <b>WV</b>	Hike into Fairyland and Campbell Canyons along this strenuous but less crowded trail.
<b>PEEKABOO LOOP</b> Bryce Point (Horses use this trail.)	5.5 mi 8.8 km 3-4 hours	800 ft 244 m <b>WV</b>	Steep but spectacular hike past Wall of Windows and Three Wisemen. <b>Hikers yield to horses on this trail.</b>
<b>PEEKABOO/NAVAJO COMBINATION</b> Sunset Point	4.9 mi 7.8 km 3-4 hours	800 ft 244 m <b>WV</b>	Combine Peekaboo Loop with Navajo Loop. See descriptions above.
<b>PEEKABOO/NAVAJO/QUEEN'S COMBINATION</b> Sunset or Sunrise Point	6.8 mi 10.9 km 3-4 hours	800 ft 244 m <b>WV</b>	Combine Peekaboo Loop with Navajo/Queens Garden combination. See descriptions above.

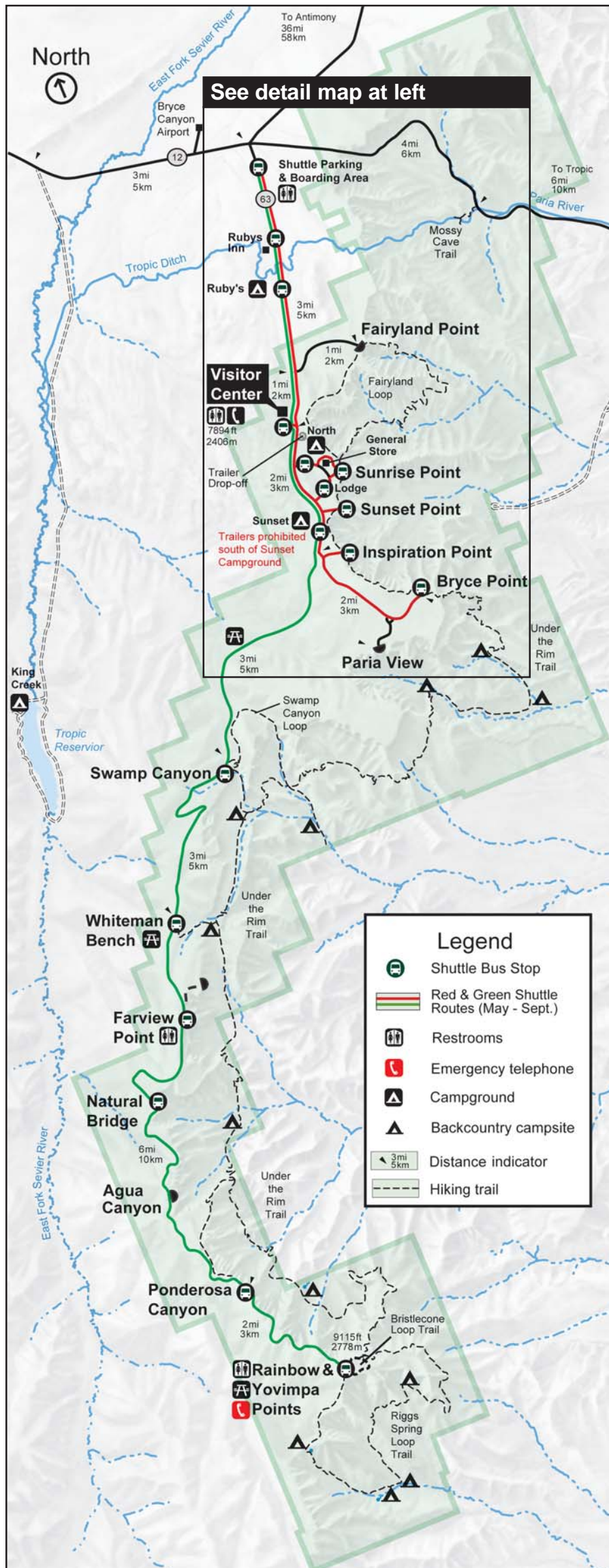
**WV** Multiple elevation changes total 2-4 times amount shown.

**!** Wear hiking boots with good traction. Carry and drink plenty of water. Park elevations reach over 9100 feet (2774 m). If you are not accustomed to high altitudes, even mild exertion may leave you feeling light-headed and nauseated.

Bryce Amphitheater Detail Map







## Bryce Canyon Shuttle

Although voluntary, we encourage you to use the Bryce Canyon Shuttle during your stay. It's **free**, easy and convenient, and you'll be doing your part to reduce traffic, conserve fuel, protect park resources, and minimize traffic, which is especially important this year because of road construction.

The Bryce Canyon Shuttle operates **May 15 - September 30, 2004** and consists of two routes:

The **Red Line Shuttle** makes a continuous loop from the Shuttle Parking and Boarding Area (located at the junction of Utah-12 and 63) through the northern portion of the park. This shuttle allows visitors to hop on and off as they please, accessing park facilities as well as the trailheads and scenic overlooks of the Bryce Amphitheater. Red Line buses run **every 8-10 minutes** from **8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mountain Daylight Time**.

The **Green Line Shuttle** is a **reservation only** trip to the southern overlooks. This 3 to 3½-hour tour runs 6 times a day, making short stops at the various overlooks along Bryce Canyon's Scenic Drive. Reservations can be made in person at the Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area or by calling (435) 834-5290.

Please note that the **Green Line Shuttle is offered this year only** to minimize traffic congestion associated with road construction.

### Red Line Shuttle

(stop sequence)

1. Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area
2. Ruby's Inn
3. Ruby's Campground
4. Visitor Center
5. Sunset Point
6. Sunset Campground
7. Bryce Point
8. Inspiration Point
9. Sunset Point
10. Lodge
12. Sunrise Point & General Store
13. North Campground Trailer Drop-off
14. Visitor Center
15. Ruby's Inn
16. Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area

### Green Line Tour

(boarding & drop-off locations)

1. Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area
2. Ruby's Inn
3. Ruby's Campground
4. Visitor Center
5. Lodge
6. Sunset Campground
7. Rainbow & Yovimpa Points
8. Ponderosa Canyon
9. Agua Canyon
10. Natural Bridge
11. Farview Point
12. Whiteman Bench
13. Swamp Canyon
14. Sunset Campground
15. Lodge
16. Visitor Center
17. Ruby's Inn
18. Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area

← See maps at left for shuttle routes and shuttle stop locations.

Note: The **Green Line Tour** lasts approximately 3½ hours. We recommend that you bring drinks and snacks with you, as there are no food or drink services in the southern end of the park. Restrooms are available.

For recommendations as to how to best use the Bryce Canyon Shuttle, inquire at the Shuttle Parking & Boarding Area, Ruby's Inn, or tune to Radio 1610 AM.



## Who's Afraid of <sup>Losing</sup> ^ the Dark?

Some people are afraid of the dark. Interestingly, Bryce Canyon's park rangers *love* the dark and are scared of the *light*! Perhaps you'd be fearful, too, if it was your job to protect the last of the best dark left in the world.

Preserving darkness isn't easy. Education is our best tool, as Bryce Canyon's biggest threats to darkness come from outside its boundaries. Protecting the dark requires controlling the light. Light that shines down is often necessary; however light that escapes sideways or upward only pollutes the night and dims the stars. Many municipalities have found that by switching to shrouded light fixtures, they can more effectively illuminate neighborhoods with less electricity. This not only reduces light pollution, but their residents' tax burden, as well.

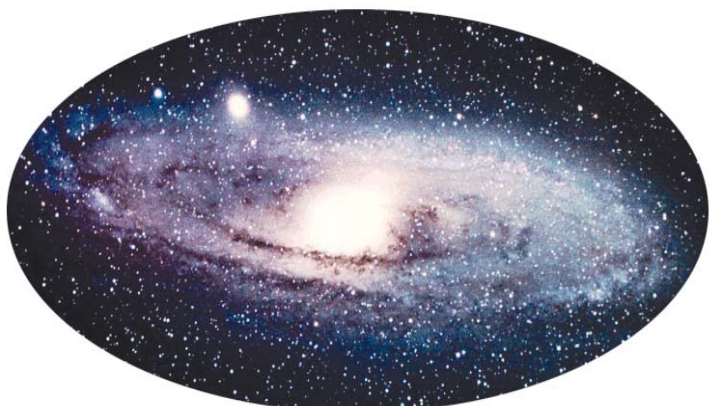
Being far from civilization, Bryce's night skies are not only dark, but our high desert location makes our thin air very easy to see through. Consequently, this is a phenomenal place for stargazing. With a limiting magnitude rating of 7.4, Bryce's sky is almost as dark as the summit of Hawaii's Mauna Kea and other world class astronomical research locations. By comparison, a moonless night in most rural settings rates at a 6.0 magnitude, where 2500 individual stars can be seen twinkling in the void. But here at Bryce, 7500 are visible to the unaided eye!

Before the stars appear, look for the rare sight of Earth's penumbra. After the last light of the setting sun fades from the highest clouds, a purple band will appear directly above the eastern horizon. This is the edge of Earth's own shadow being projected onto our planet's upper atmosphere. Look quickly because this phenomenon is soon engulfed in darkness as the stars take the stage.

The first star may actually be the planet Venus, shining so brightly at Bryce it will cast your shadow. Venus is soon followed by Vega, Arcturus, and other bright stars. When the transition from light to dark is complete, look for the combined light of billions of stars all so distant they appear as one long cloud spanning the horizons. Behold, the Milky Way! This stellar strip of light is only a portion of our galaxy's other great spiral arm. Imagine standing in the left hand of a spinning figure skater, looking across to her right arm while she dances our solar system and the rest of her 100 billion stars through the Universe. What does an entire galaxy look like?

In most places it's never dark enough to see, but at Bryce, only hours after sunset, your eyes will be able to see 527 quadrillion miles (2.2 million light years) to the Andromeda Galaxy. This smudge of light is an entirely different figure skater, dancing to a different tune. Near the hind legs of the constellation Pegasus you will discover this fuzzy cloud that astronomers know as M31. Andromeda is simultaneously the largest and most distant object you will ever see with your unaided eye, measuring 110,000 light years in diameter!

At Bryce, the Andromeda Galaxy is just the beginning. From the vantage point of this sanctuary of darkness, a universe of stellar wonders awaits. Join a park ranger for one of our popular astronomy programs where you can marvel at star clouds, star clusters, and other galaxies. Before being veiled by the light pollution of the modern world, these deep sky objects were once visible everywhere. Now over much of the planet they are hard to detect even with large telescopes. Indeed, NASA estimates that less than half of the residents in the northern hemisphere can even see any of the Milky Way!



*The Andromeda Galaxy, our sister galaxy*



*Earth at night.  
NASA estimates that less than half the residents of the Northern Hemisphere can see any of the Milky Way.*

To many people, light provides safety and knowledge. It means finding the right car key without having to worry about what's lurking in the shadows. To others, light is profitable, insuring 24-hour advertising and industry. Yet, for those who must travel far from home, knowing their stars insures that a skyward glance offers a sense of security, and that connection to a loved one, who although not present, is at least enjoying the same starry sky. Those who have come to love the dark will gaze into the night sky void for hours, inspired by an unparalleled sense of awe, or intrigued by that age old question, "Is there anyone or anything looking back?"

It is easy to feel insignificant underneath such vastness, yet ironically, it is within an individual's power to help preserve such a view. Close your blinds at night. Replace porch lights with motion sensor security lights that only come on when they are needed. Become involved in local efforts to establish good lighting and maintain light ordinances. Who knows? Perhaps your home town has the potential for Bryce Canyon quality stargazing. In most places, all it takes to restore the heavens is a shared passion for the dark and the unified responsible management of light.

*"...one of the guys from New York says, 'Hey! Look at the smog in the sky! Smog clear out here in the sticks!' Hey Joe, that's not smog-- that's the Milky Way!' Joe had never seen the Milky Way."*

*- C.W. McCall (Bill Fries & Chip Davis)*



*Park rangers offer astronomy programs close to the new moons. An indoor multimedia presentation is followed by telescope viewing of the heavens (weather permitting). Check the schedule of astronomy programs at the visitor center or on our website at [www.nps.gov/bryca](http://www.nps.gov/bryca).*



## How Was Bryce Canyon Created?

The striking scenery which makes Bryce Canyon unique has been created by the forces of nature sculpting the brilliantly-colored **Claron Formation** into a series of beautiful and unusual erosional features.

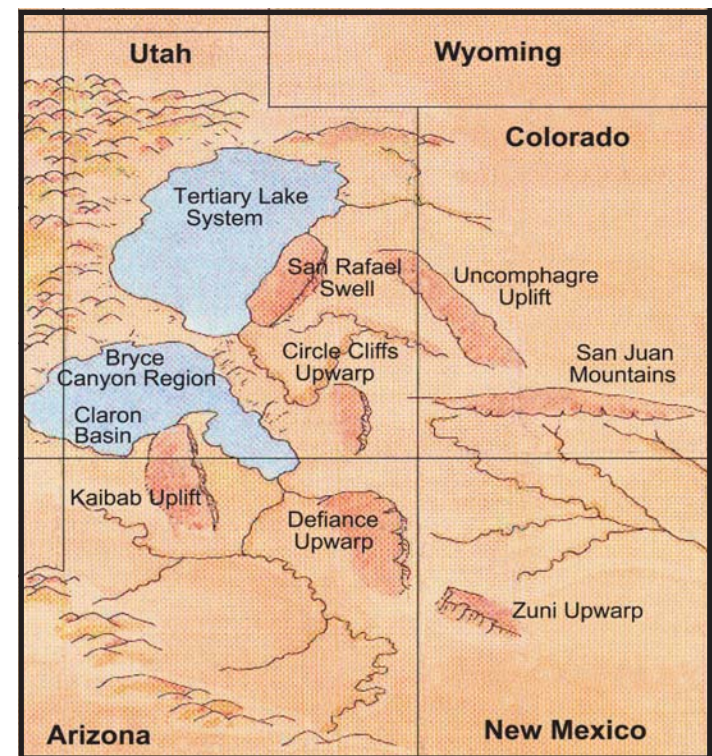
Bryce Canyon's beginnings take us back to the end of the earth's tumultuous Cretaceous Period, 65 million years ago. It was a time that brought cataclysmic changes worldwide, including the extinction of the dinosaurs.

### Deposition

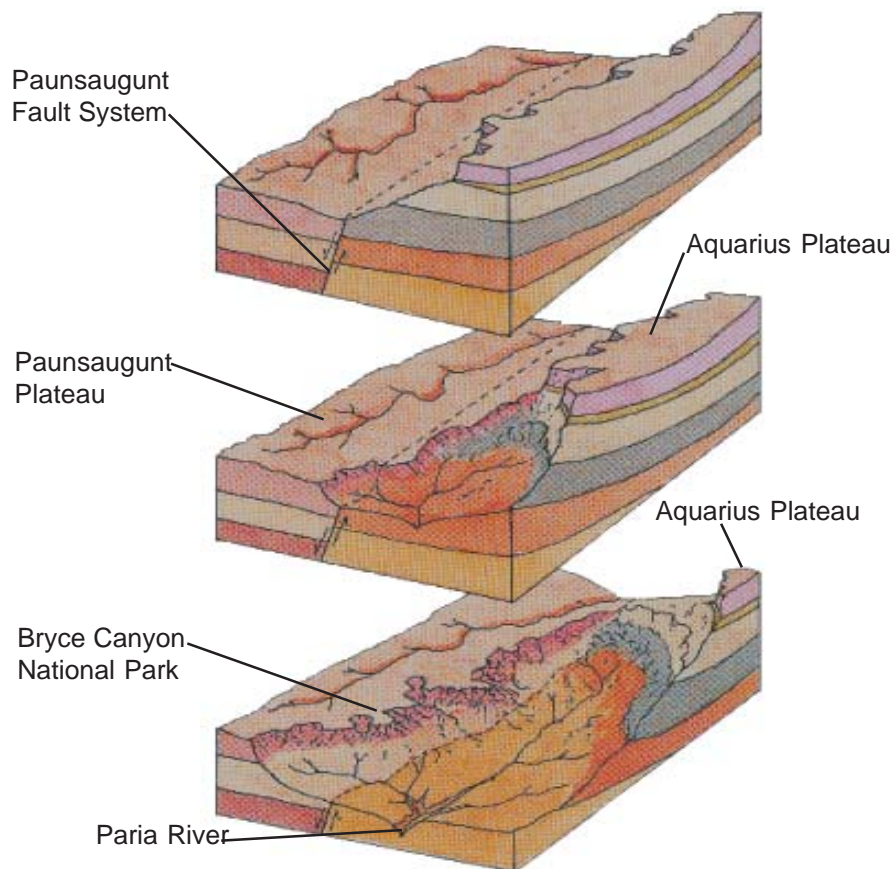
The creation of this unique landscape can be traced back to a network of braided rivers and streams which transported a variety of sediments into a large **freshwater lake** that once covered southwestern Utah. Colorful minerals such as iron (yellow and red) and manganese (pink and violet) mixed with dissolved calcium carbonate to create this unusually colorful **limestone**. Over time, the water disappeared, leaving behind the multicolored **Claron Formation** from which Bryce Canyon's unusual scenery is carved.

### Uplift & Faulting

About 10-15 million years ago, a period of uplift began in the large region of the southwest known as the Colorado Plateau. Such tremendous stress on the earth's crust led to a period of faulting, during which the Colorado



Generalized Diagram of Tertiary Lake Systems in Utah



Plateau was stretched and fractured to form a series of smaller plateaus.

The highest of these plateaus, the Aquarius, is visible to the east of Bryce. Bryce Canyon has been carved from the eastern rim of the Paunsaugunt Plateau. The **Paunsaugunt Fault**, which separates these two plateaus, initiated the sculpting process by breaking the surrounding rock with vertical mini-fractures called **joints**. A series of perpendicular joints were also created by another earthquake zone called the **Ruby's Inn Over-thrust Fault**. Earthquakes along these two faults left a checkerboard pattern of fractures, priming Bryce Canyon for the forces of weathering and erosion.

### Weathering & Erosion

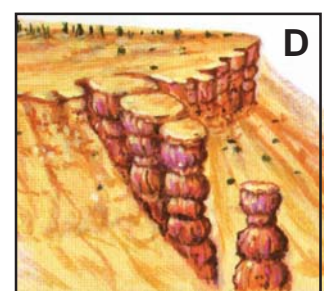
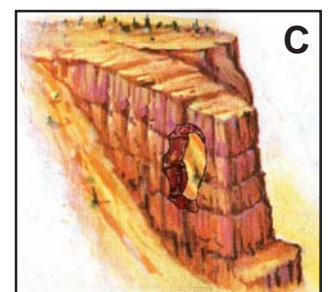
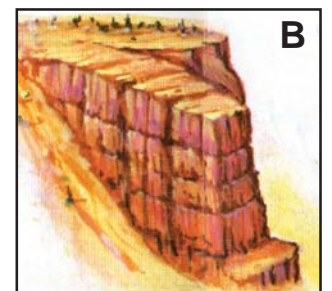
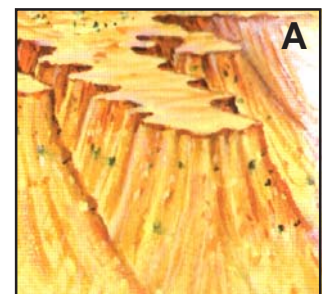
Although Bryce Canyon receives a meager 18 inches of precipitation annually, it's amazing what this little bit of water can do under the right circumstances!

Sub-freezing nighttime temperatures and relatively warm days result in over 200 freeze-thaw cycles annually. During the afternoon, snow and ice will melt, causing water to seep deep into the **joints** of the **Claron Formation**. Once the sun sets, temperatures plummet and the water re-freezes, expanding up to 9% as it becomes ice. Exerting tremendous force on the adjacent rock, this process, known as **frost wedging**, shatters and pries the weak rock apart.

At the same time, rain water, which is naturally acidic, is slowly dissolving away the limestone, rounding off the edges of these fractured rocks, and washing away the debris. The plateau continues to erode westward in a process called **headward erosion**.

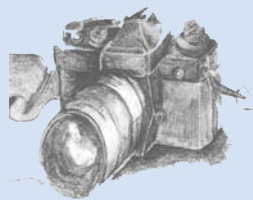
Small rivulets of water periodically run down the sloping eastern escarpment of the plateau, forming gullies (**A**). As gullies are cut deeper, narrow walls of rock known as **fins** begin to emerge (**B**). Fins eventually develop holes known as **windows** (**C**). Windows grow larger until their roofs collapse, creating **hoodoos** (**D**). As old hoodoos collapse, like pillars of salt, new ones are being born.

The conditions and processes at work here are not unique, but the distinctive way in which all of the elements operate together results in the fantastic scenery that makes Bryce Canyon worldly unique.





## Photo Tips



Early morning and late afternoon hours are great times for pictures. The lower angle of the sun highlights shadows and enriches the red and orange colors of the rock formations.

Sunrise and sunset times are posted daily at the visitor center.

Since the canyons face east, all viewpoints are excellent for the morning sun. For sunset, Inspiration and Bryce Points are high enough above the trees to see the sun set in the west.

At high altitudes, consider using filters to minimize ultra-violet light. A polarizer helps to saturate colors and enrich a blue sky.

Use a telephoto lens when photographing wildlife. Keep your distance and catch them in a natural setting.

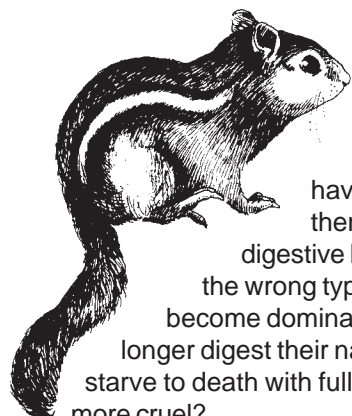
Stay a safe distance from the rim. Rocks are loose and crumbly and can make footing treacherous.

Bright light can make it difficult to get a properly exposed picture. It's a good idea to "bracket" your exposures (over and under-exposing) to get an acceptable picture.

Bryce photography continues into the night. With a tripod and cable release you can capture the moon, stars and planets as they shine in the clear night sky.

## Help Stop Animal Cruelty!

Feeding wild animals is a classic example of how good intentions can unwittingly cause serious harm. In fact, feeding wildlife is actually a form of animal cruelty!



Fed animals frequent roads and parking lots where they are much more likely to get run over by cars.

Furthermore, wild animals have very strict natural diets and therefore very specific types of digestive bacteria. Human food causes the wrong type of digestive bacteria to become dominant. Soon, fed animals can no longer digest their natural foods and ultimately will starve to death with full stomachs. What could be more cruel?

Fed animals will even teach their offspring to beg for food. These young animals may never learn the necessary skills to find natural foods, and grow up totally dependent on humans for survival.

The act of feeding wildlife can also be dangerous to people. Rodents are notorious for transmitting diseases. You put yourself in jeopardy every time you get within flea-jumping distance 6-9 feet (2-3 m) of a squirrel or prairie dog. Worse yet, feeding can cause normally docile animals like deer to become aggressive. In one sad instance at Yosemite National Park, a young child was gored and killed by a "spike" deer buck when he refused to relinquish his sandwich to the animal.



Unfortunately, once animals become habituated to humans, their behavior often leads to management actions that may result in their removal from the park.

Giving in just once to the big, brown, pleading eyes of a cute animal can have major consequences. BE RESPONSIBLE!! Learn to be a friend of wildlife by not trying to befriend animals with food.

**Please spread the word! True animal lovers don't feed wild animals. Helps us protect your national parks.**

## Wings of Success

Not since Ebenezer Bryce's time have nine-foot wingspans cast majestic shadows across the Grand Staircase. First reintroduced in 1996 by an interagency partnership spearheaded by The Peregrine Fund, now 36 captive-raised California Condors call the Grand Staircase home. During the spring of 2003, two mating pairs of condors produced and incubated single egg clutches. These recent milestones suggest that the recovery of the condor is only a matter of time.

Life in the Grand Staircase region is not always easy for the big birds. Golden Eagles and Coyotes, who also subsist on carrion, offer the greatest threat to condors. Being gregarious birds, condors have had to learn the hard way that not all species of scavengers like to share their desert's spoils.

In their relentless search for carrion, condors can range over 100 miles a day. Keep your eyes peeled because occasionally they explore the cliffs of Bryce.



While scanning for condors, you may miss a glimpse of another success story streaking out of the sky. Bryce is also home to Peregrine Falcons. Peregrines were pushed to the brink of extinction from poisoning by the insecticide DDT. However, thanks to the dedication of The Peregrine Fund, today these beautiful birds soar throughout North America. In 1999, peregrines were declared recovered and removed from the Endangered Species List.

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has."*

- Margaret Mead

## Utah Prairie Dogs

Bryce Canyon is home to the Utah prairie dog (*Cynomys parvidens*), the western-most of five species of prairie dogs that inhabit North America.

Prairie dogs once inhabited vast areas of the western Great Plains. The first pioneers who crossed the short-grass prairies were astounded to find vast colonies of stout little rodents. They called the creatures "prairie-dogs" and labeled their sprawling settlements towns. One such town in Texas covered an estimated 25,000 square miles and was said to have 400 million inhabitants! The settlement of the West, however, decimated these enormous populations.



Prior to the 1920's, Utah prairie dog populations were estimated to be 95,000 animals. By the 1960's, populations had crashed due to poisoning, disease (bubonic plague), and drought. However, the chief concern has always been habitat loss. Habitat degradation practices like over-grazing, fire suppression, and various kinds of rural development furthered Utah prairie dog decline. By 1972, it was estimated that only 3,300 Utah prairie dogs remained, and it was thought they would be extinct by the year 2000.

In June 1973, the animals were listed as an Endangered Species. Conservation strategies included reintroducing them to Bryce Canyon National Park. Today, 100-200 Utah prairie dogs live within Bryce Canyon's boundaries. Despite being downlisted to "Threatened" status in 1984, Utah prairie dog populations remain precariously low throughout their range. The threat of extinction is still an uncomfortable reality.



# NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

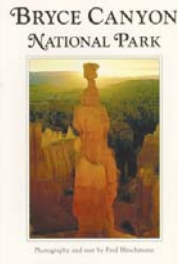
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Bryce Canyon Natural History Association, Box 170002, Bryce Canyon, Utah 84717 435-834-4600 Fax 435-834-4606 www.nps.gov/brca/nhamain



## General Books

**Shadows of Time - Geology of Bryce Canyon National Park.** Text by Frank DeCourten, Photos by John Telford. 155 pages, \$ 9.95 soft



**Bryce Canyon National Park** by Fred Hirschmann. Large format picture book. 112 color pages. \$19.95 hard

**Bryce Canyon Auto and Hiking Guide** by Tully Stroud. An introduction to touring the park by car and foot. 44 pages \$3.95

**Wildflowers of Southwest Utah** by Hayle Buchanan. A field guide to Bryce Canyon and surrounding plant communities. 119 pages, \$7.95

**KC Bryce Canyon: The Story Behind the Scenery** General Overview of Bryce Canyon's natural features. 48 pages, \$8.95

**KC Bryce Canyon: The Continuing Story** Photographic essay on Bryce Canyon. 48 pages, \$8.95

**Sierra Press: Bryce Canyon National Park** by Greer Chesher. A beautifully written and illustrated book on Bryce Canyon. 45 pages, \$ 8.95 Also available in this series: Zion, Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite and Mesa Verde National Park.

**Geology of Utah, W. L. Stokes.** An excellent look at the complex and simple geology of Utah. 280 pages \$15.95

**Roadside Geology of Utah, H. Chronic.** This is a book that the layman will enjoy and the geologist appreciate. 326 pages \$16.00

## Children's Books

**Bryce Canyon Discovery** An educational activity book for children. 32 pages \$3.95

**Kid's Guide to Bryce Canyon** Coloring book with information and games. 32 pages, \$1.50



**Bryce Canyon Coloring Book** Fun coloring book with punch-out hoodoos. 28 pages, \$2.95

**Mountain Wildlife Coloring Book** - 48 pages, \$5.95

**Crayons** - 12 crayons with eraser and sharpener. \$4.99

**The Berenstain Bears, Don't Pollute** Berenstain. Help kids learn a valuable lesson about pollution. 30 pages \$3.25

**We have an extensive variety of publications, games, puzzles and stuffed animals for children of all ages. We also support a very active Junior Ranger program.**

## Maps & Trail Guides

**Bryce Canyon Topographic Map:** Official USGS map - Scale 1:31680 \$4.95

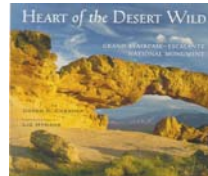
**Trails Illustrated Topographic Maps:** Backcountry and day hiking information. Waterproof and tearproof. Scale 1:37270 \$9.95 ea.

- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Dixie National Forest
- Capitol Reef
- Cedar Mountain/Pine Valley
- Escalante Canyons
- Zion National Park
- Paiute ATV Trail

**Bryce Canyon Hiking Guide:** Bryce Amphitheater hiking map with trail descriptions and an aerial photo of Bryce Canyon. \$1.99

**Bryce Canyon Day Hikes and Backpacking Trails** This publication is packed with great information about all the trails in Bryce Canyon. **SPECIAL \$1.95**

**Geological Cross Section** Cedar Breaks, Zion, Grand Canyon region. Flip side: Grand Canyon, San Francisco Peaks, Verde Valley. 16X20 Rolled - \$1.99



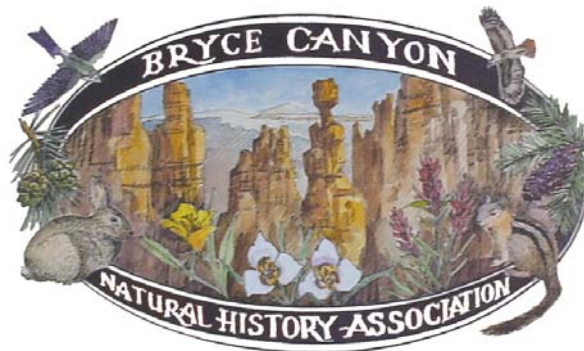
**AWARD WINNER!**

**Grand Staircase - Escalante National Monument** by Greer Chesher  
A thought-provoking manuscript and spectacular images from one of America's newest national monuments. 108 pages, \$19.95

The BCNHA in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management has produced a striking line of postcards, magnets, posters and more on the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. We also carry hiking guides for the area.

**All profits are used to finance new publications and assist Bryce Canyon National Park, the Bureau of Land Management and the Dixie National Forest in helping visitors admire and better understand our national parks.**

**Bryce Canyon Natural History Association is a nonprofit organization. When you make a purchase from our Association, you are supporting the educational, interpretive and scientific programs on America's public lands.**



## TO PLACE AN ORDER, CALL OR WRITE:

Bryce Canyon NHA  
P.O. Box 170002  
Bryce Canyon, UT 84717-0002  
toll free 888-362-2642  
fax 435-834-4606



## Postcards & Misc.

**4X6 Packets** - 12 beautiful images of the most popular formations. Several parks to choose from. \$3.95 each

**4X10 Packet** - An assortment of 10 panoramic prints of Bryce Canyon. \$3.95

**2X3 Packet** - A wonderful collection of 12 mini prints. \$2.50

**Bryce Canyon Stickers** - 3 Sheets, 9 Stickers \$.99 each. Also available Zion, Grand Canyon and Little Critters.

**Bryce Canyon Tote Bag** Striking **COLOR** Image of Bryce Canyon on a white canvas bag \$14.95

**Bryce Canyon Patch or Lapel Pin** \$3.95 each

**Bryce Canyon Notecards** 8 cards with 4 beautiful images of Bryce Canyon with envelopes. \$5.95

**Bryce Canyon Calendar** 12-month calendar produced each year. Packed with beautiful photos and facts about Bryce Canyon.  
**Wall Calendar \$8.95 Desk Calendar \$4.95**

**Shadows of Time - Bryce Canyon T-Shirts** Striking T-shirt with a stunning view of Bryce Amphitheater.

Short Sleeved	S/M/L/XL	\$16.95
Long Sleeved	S/M/L/XL	\$21.95
Sweatshirt	S/M/L/XL	\$24.95

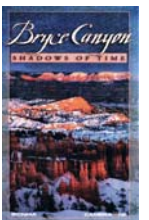
## Screen Savers & Videos

**Screen Savers** on CD-ROM. Cycles through 35 high resolution images, with text and wallpaper. IBM/Mac ONLY \$9.95 each

- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Zion National Park
- Wildlife of North America
- Grand Circle
- Scenic Utah
- Canyon Country

**AWARD WINNER!**

**Bryce Canyon - Shadows of Time** Explore the changing seasons and delve into the depths of geologic time. Shown in the Bryce Canyon Visitor Center. Narrated, 60 minutes. VHS/PAL \$19.95

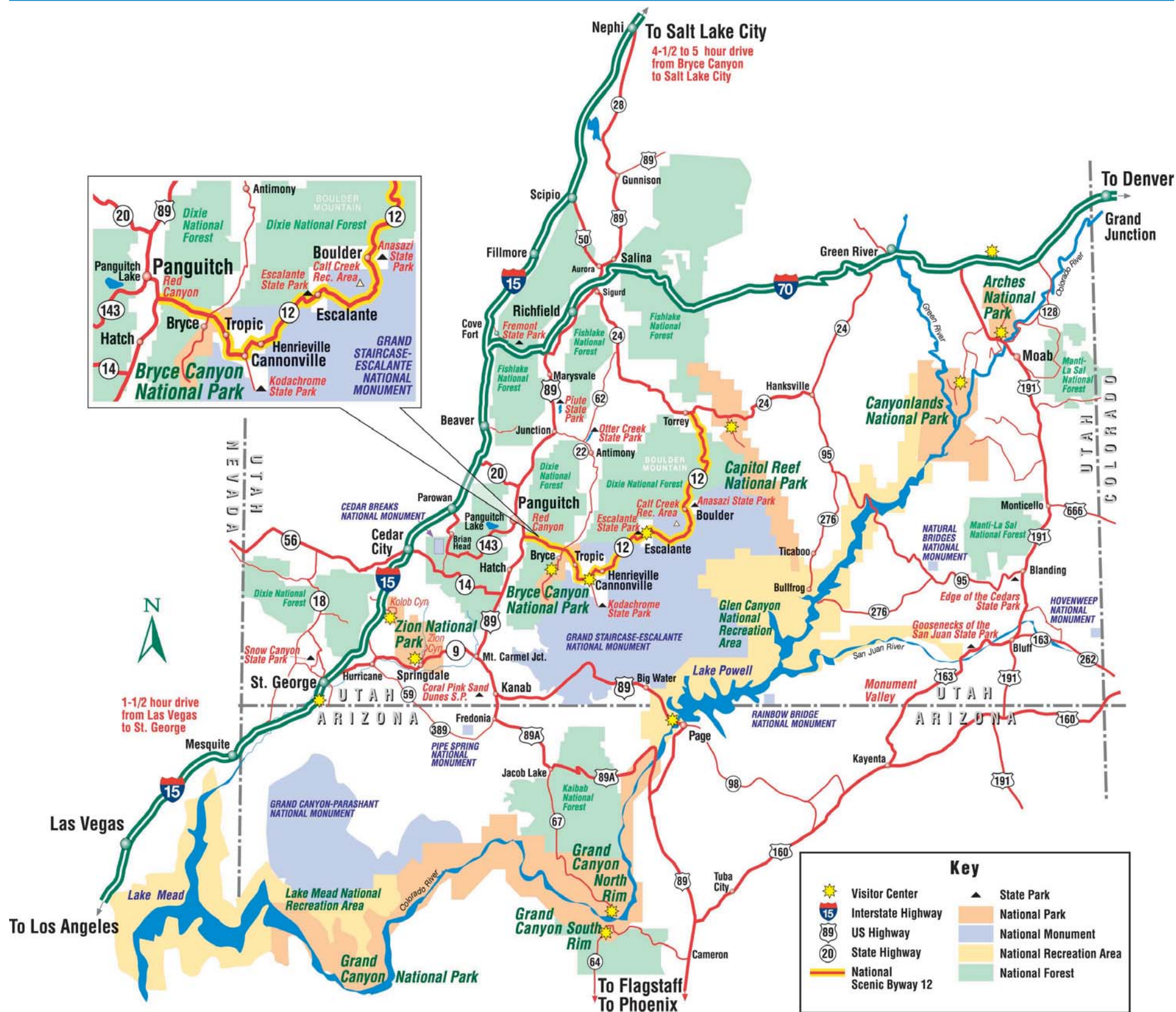


**Bryce Canyon National Park:** Narrated, 60 minutes VHS/PAL \$19.95  
**Readers Digest, Bryce Canyon** Narrated, 32 minutes VHS/PAL \$14.95  
**Bryce, Zion and N. Rim, Grand Canyon:** Narrated, 45 minutes VHS/PAL \$19.95 DVD \$24.95  
**Touring the Southwest's Grand Circle** Narrated, 60 minutes VHS/PAL \$19.95 DVD \$24.95

**America's Western National Parks** Narrated, 60 minutes VHS/PAL \$19.95 DVD \$24.95

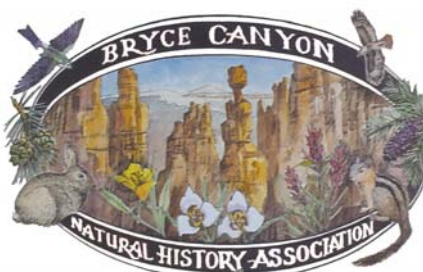
**We carry a full line of field guides from publishers such as Golden, Stokes, Peterson and Audubon. Call and let us help you select the right guide for you!**





This guide is printed on recycled paper through a donation from the Bryce Canyon Natural History Association, a non-profit cooperating association formed to enhance your understanding of the park.

To further your knowledge of Bryce Canyon National Park, interpretive materials such as books, maps, slides, and posters are available at the park visitor center or by mail order.



PLEASE READ AND RECYCLE



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